

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of transmitting Ethernet data frames from a first local area network (LAN) to a second local area network (LAN) comprising the steps of:

- mapping Ethernet frames from the first local area network onto a Plesiochronous Digital Hierarchy (PDH) data stream via a Generic Framing Procedure (GFP),
- transmitting said mapped Ethernet frames via a first En-network to ~~an~~ a Synchronous Digital Hierarchy (SDH)-level network,
- receiving the transmission at the second local area network through the SDH-level network ,
- demapping the Ethernet frames from the first local area network via the Generic Framing Procedure, and
- transmitting said demapped frames into the second local area network.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the first and second LANs are Ethernet LANs, and wherein ~~according to which~~ said mapping is carried out at a junction point between the first Ethernet LAN and a first En-network.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the first and second LANs are Ethernet LANs, and wherein ~~according to which~~ said demapping is carried out at a junction point between the second En-network and the second Ethernet LAN.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, according to which the transport of the GFP frames through the SDH-network is carried out ~~by means of so-called~~ using virtual containers, (VCx-containers).

5. (Currently Amended) A system for transmitting Ethernet data frames from a first local area network to a second local area network, comprising:-
- means for mapping Ethernet frames from the first local area network onto a Plesiochronous Digital Hierarchy (PDH) format via a Generic Framing Procedure (GFP),
- means for transmitting said mapped Ethernet frames via a first En-network to an ~~PDH~~SDH-level network.

6. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 5, additionally comprising means for:
- receiving the transmission at the second local area network through the SDH-level network via a second En-network,
- demapping the Ethernet frames from the first local area network via Generic Framing Procedure, and
- transmitting said demapped frames into the second local area network.

7. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 5, in which the means for said mapping is arranged at a junction point between the first ~~Ethernet~~ LAN and a first En-network.

8. (Currently Amended) The ~~method-system~~ of claim 6, according to which said means for demapping is arranged at a junction point between the second En-network and ~~the a~~ second ~~Ethernet~~ LAN.

9. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 5, in which the transport of the GFP frames through the SDH-network is carried out ~~by means of so-called~~ with virtual containers, (VCx-containers).

10. (New) The system of claim 5, wherein the first and second LANs are Ethernet LANs.